AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. - 7. (canceled).

8. (currently amended): A method for transmitting Ethernet frames through sequences of data packets of a transmission protocol, with the information relevant for the transmission protocol being extracted from a header of the Ethernet frame, the method comprising:

administering by a central entity (CAN Object Identifier Server) a freely definable number of usable CAN (Controller Area Network) object identifiers; and

upon request by a communication node ready for sending Ethernet frames to a receiving communication node, assigning by the central entity (CAN Object Identifier Server) to ~~said~~ the communication node and the receiving communication node ~~pair of communicating nodes~~ a pair out of said CAN (Controller Area Network) object identifiers.

9. (previously presented): The method according to claim 8, wherein the central entity (CAN Object Identifier Server) requests return of the assigned CAN object identifiers as supply of free CAN object identifiers becomes scarce.

10. (previously presented): The method according to claim 9, wherein a subscriber node sends a registration request to the central entity (CAN Object Identifier Server) and the central

entity (CAN Object Identifier Server) allocates a private unique CAN object identifier to the subscriber node.

11. (previously presented): The method according to claim 9, wherein the central entity (CAN Object Identifier Server) uses a code for which each of a plurality of stations is continuously receive-ready, transferring control messages to at least one subscriber node.

12. (previously presented): The method according to claim 8, wherein a subscriber node sends a registration request to the central entity (CAN Object Identifier Server) and the central entity (CAN Object Identifier Server) allocates a private unique CAN object identifier to the subscriber node.

13. (previously presented): The method according to claim 8, wherein the central entity (CAN Object Identifier Server) uses a code for which each of a plurality of stations is continuously receive-ready, transferring control messages to at least one subscriber node.

14. (currently amended): The method according to claim 8, wherein each of the pair of CAN object identifiers is assigned to a respective node from the ~~pair of nodes~~ communication node and the receiving communication node and wherein each of the pair of CAN object identifiers identifies the respective node from the pair of nodes.

15. (canceled).

16. (previously presented): The method according to claim 8, wherein the number of the usable CAN object identifiers is not bound by a number of nodes.

17. (previously presented): The method according to claim 8, wherein the number of the usable CAN object identifiers is independent from a number of nodes.